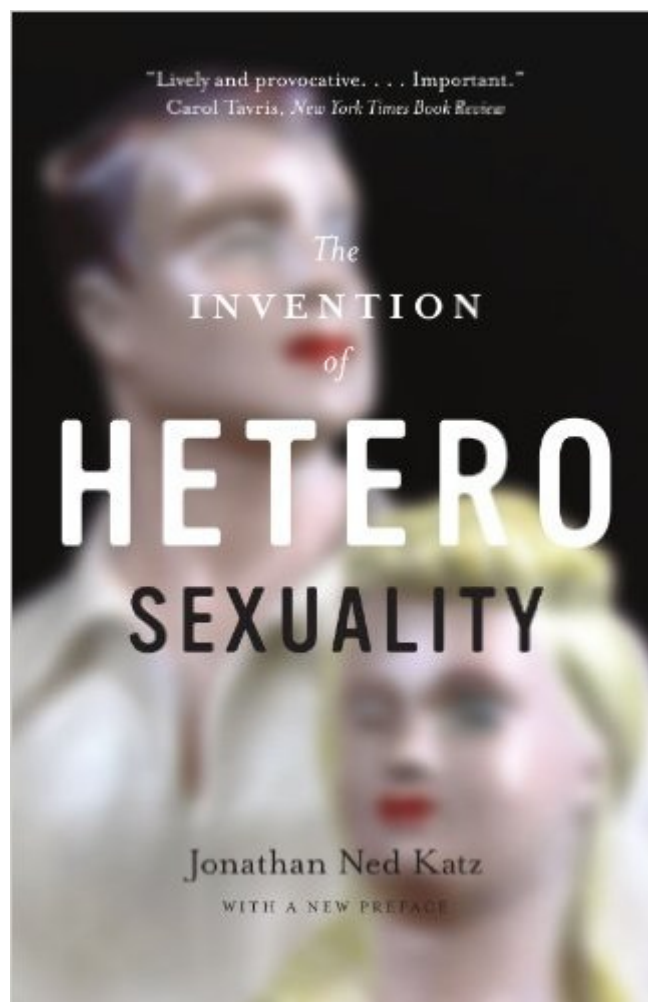


The book was found

# The Invention Of Heterosexuality



## Synopsis

“Heterosexuality,” assumed to denote a universal sexual and cultural norm, has been largely exempt from critical scrutiny. In this boldly original work, Jonathan Ned Katz challenges the common notion that the distinction between heterosexuality and homosexuality has been a timeless one. Building on the history of medical terminology, he reveals that as late as 1923, the term “heterosexuality” referred to a “morbid sexual passion,” and that its current usage emerged to legitimate men and women having sex for pleasure. Drawing on the works of Sigmund Freud, James Baldwin, Betty Friedan, and Michel Foucault, *The Invention of Heterosexuality* considers the effects of heterosexuality’s recently forged primacy on both scientific literature and popular culture. “Lively and provocative.” —Carol Tavris, *New York Times Book Review* “A valuable primer . . . misses no significant twists in sexual politics.” —Gary Indiana, *Village Voice Literary Supplement* “One of the most important—if not outright subversive—works to emerge from gay and lesbian studies in years.” —Mark Thompson, *The Advocate*

## Book Information

Paperback: 305 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press (June 15, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226426017

ISBN-13: 978-0226426013

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #267,685 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Gay & Lesbian Studies](#) #109 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > History](#) #370 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Gay & Lesbian](#)

## Customer Reviews

As readers of this book will know, it advances the extraordinary claim that heterosexuality was something time-bound and invented—a development coinciding with the purported invention of homosexuality in the latter part of the 19th century. Relying on research provided by the contemporary German scholar Manfred Herzer, Katz begins by pointing out, correctly, that the word “heterosexual” was first employed (as far as we know) in a private letter written by K. M. Kertbeny to

another scholar, Karl Heinrich Ulrichs. In this letter, dated May 6, 1868, Kerbeny set forth four terms to designate particular forms of sexual expression: 1) monosexual; 2) homosexual; 3) heterosexual; and 4) heterogenit. (Monosexual seems to have referred to masturbation, while heterogenit applied to human sexual acts with animals.) In his publication of the following year, however, Kerbeny chose to replace "heterosexual" with "normalsexual." "Normalsexualität," normal sexuality, was the activity of the majority of human beings. Standing over against the minority preference, that is, Homosexualität. In this way, Kerbeny introduced a judgmental coloration that was absent, or at least less prominent in the earlier coinage. Since only a few persons could have known about these private speculations, Kerbeny did not truly introduce the term "heterosexual" to the German-speaking public--at least not in any meaningful sense. That task was undertaken by the popularizer Gustav Jaeger in 1880, author of the book *Die Entdeckung der Seele*. It was Jaeger, later famous for a line of clothing, who consolidated the contrast between heterosexual and homosexual, subsequently adopted by Richard von Krafft-Ebing and many others. (Katz fails to mention Jaeger.)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Invention of Heterosexuality Summary - The Invention Of Wings: Novel By Sue Monk Kidd --- An Incredible Summary (The Invention Of Wings: An Incredible Summary-- Paperback, Summary, Audible, Novel, Audiobook) Patent Drafting Secrets- How to write a patent application for an invention and how to draft a patent application for an invention The Man Who Knew Too Much: Alan Turing and the Invention of the Computer (Great Discoveries) The Philadelphia Chromosome: A Genetic Mystery, a Lethal Cancer, and the Improbable Invention of a Lifesaving Treatment Invention by Design; How Engineers Get from Thought to Thing The Most Powerful Idea in the World: A Story of Steam, Industry, and Invention National Geographic Concise History of Science and Invention: An Illustrated Time Line The Essential Inventor's Guide: Step-by-step methods to successfully evaluate, patent, and market your invention on a budget The Invention That Changed the World: How a Small Group of Radar Pioneers Won the Second World War and Launched a Technical Revolution Invention Of Women: Making An African Sense Of Western Gender Discourses Creativity: The Psychology of Discovery and Invention Soul Machine: The Invention of the Modern Mind Mothers of Invention: Women of the Slaveholding South in the American Civil War (Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies) The Invention of Sodomy in Christian Theology (The Chicago Series on Sexuality, History, and Society) The Japan of Pure Invention: Gilbert and Sullivan's The Mikado *La invención de la naturaleza: El mundo nuevo de Alexander von Humboldt / The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World (Spanish Edition) The Invention of God*

The Invention of Enterprise: Entrepreneurship from Ancient Mesopotamia to Modern Times (The Kauffman Foundation Series on Innovation and Entrepreneurship) The Invention of Beethoven and Rossini: Historiography, Analysis, Criticism

[Dmca](#)